

AUSTRIA

I.01. Introduction

Year of adherence to the Convention: 1992

Organisation(s) or institution(s) responsible for preparation of report

- Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, Dpt IV/3 Protection of Monuments

I.02. Identification of Cultural and Natural Properties

Status of national inventories

- Inventories, established at the national level, have been used as a basis for selecting World Heritage sites

I.03. The Tentative List

- Original Tentative List was submitted in 1994
- Revisions submitted in 2002 and 2003
- It is the responsibility of the central government, prepared in collaboration with the regional authorities (cultural departments of the 9 Länder)

I.04. Nomination of Cultural and Natural Properties for the World Heritage List

Nominations

- Nominations are the responsibility of the central government, prepared in collaboration with the regional government, town administration and site managers (Hungary was involved in the preparation of the Fertő / Neusiedlersee's nomination file)
- Motivations for nomination: conservation, honour/prestige, raising awareness about conservation demands

Inscriptions

- 8 cultural sites: *Historic Centre of the City of Salzburg* (1996); *Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn* (1996); *Hallstatt-Dachstein Salzkammergut Cultural Landscape* (1997); *Semmering Railway* (1998); *City of Graz- Historic Centre* (1999); *Wachau Cultural Landscape* (2000); *Historic Centre of Vienna* (2001); *Fertő / Neusiedlersee Cultural Landscape* (2001)

Benefits of inscription

- Honour/prestige, reinforcement of the public opinion against threats endangering WH.

I.05. General Policy and Legislation for the Protection, Conservation and Presentation of the Cultural and Natural Heritage

Specific legislations

- The federal administration is in charge of the protection of monuments: Monuments Protection Act (enacted in 1923, last amended in 1999); regional planning, building regulation and natural protection are the responsibilities of the federal provinces (townscape protection acts, historic town centre preservation funds)
- Management plans are not required for national heritage
- There is no specific planning legislation to protect World Heritage and no plan to change current legislation

Other Conventions

Hague Convention (1954), Hague Protocol (1954), London Convention (1969), Granada Convention (1985), Second Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954 (1999), Ramsar Convention (1971), CITES (1973), Bern Convention (1979), Basel Convention (1991), Bonn Convention (1979), Alpine Convention (1991), Convention on biological diversity (1992)

Provisions have been integrated into national legislation

I.06. Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation

Organisations, local communities participating in protection and conservation

- Federal Office of Historic Monuments represented in the Federal Provinces by the Superintendent of Monuments
- Heritage conservation is institutionally integrated
- Local communities and NGOs are also involved

I.07. Scientific, Technical Studies and Research

- "Monument-Site-Cultural Landscape, exemplified by the Wachau"; "Climatic Control of Historic Interiors"; "Fire protection of Historic Monuments"; "Conservation and Restoration of Plastered Surfaces"; "Examination and Conservation of Architectural Surfaces"

I.08. Financial Resources

National resources and international financial assistance, fundraising

- Funding of World Heritage sites: national and local/regional authority budget allowances, private sector
- The State Party has not helped to establish associations for raising funds
- No additional contributions to the World Heritage Fund have been made

I.09. Training

Professional and institutional training

- Heritage training has been provided
- National training and educational institutions are considered important including the former Carthusian Monastery of Mauerbach, workshop and vocational training centre dedicated to architectural conservation; the Arsenal Complex, workshop on movable assets of art; the University of Applied Arts and the University of Fine Arts

I.10. International Co-operation

- Cooperation for the protection of World Heritage on the territory of other States Parties: hosting and/or attending international training courses/seminars, experts, collaboration with Hungary to draw up the management plan of Fertő/Neusiedlersee
- Measures to avoid damage to World Heritage on the territory of other States Parties: participation in other UN programmes, hosting international seminars on protection of cultural property

I.11. Information, Awareness Building and Education

Information and awareness raising on local, regional national or international level

- Promotion of World Heritage sites is made through publications, films, postage stamps/medals, exhibitions. Presentation and awareness are adequate
- Education of World Heritage protection: publication of a German-language version of the UNESCO WH Education Resource Kit, organisation of a workshop dedicated to the kit, organisation of several teacher training workshops, launching of a campaign on cultural heritage, participation in the UNESCO's ASP

I.12. Conclusions and Recommended Action

Conclusion and proposed actions

- Strengths: The State Party has adopted a comprehensive organisation of protection and conservation, the management plan of the Historic Centre of Vienna and the cultural landscape of Fertő/Neusiedlersee have already been approved), involvement in the international cooperation is effective and particularly in the field of protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict; increased public awareness about World Heritage
- Weaknesses: restrictions linked to World Heritage status are not always well known

Proposed actions:

- Establishment of an inventory of cultural properties and cultural landscapes

This activity does not require assistance from the World Heritage Fund